(b) if so, the action taken for its early introduction in the country to check the disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and shall be placed on the table of the House.

Incorrect reports by patho-labs

† 1409. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some patho-labs in the country give incorrect reports;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any action against the patho-labs giving incorrect reports; and

(c) if so, by when, together with the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Health being a State subject, it is the responsibility of State Governments to take necessary steps to establish effective authority for taking necessary action against the patho-labs found guilty of giving incorrect reports.

Biological warfare threat

1410. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government envisage any threat of biological warfare on the country in the present context;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of cases of Anthrax, Typhoid, Cholera, Malaria, AIDS and Phylaria reported in the country and the fund allotted and utilized to control and prevent the same for the last three years, category-wise, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to protect from die catastrophe of biological warfare in the light of Afghanistan war?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) Biological agents are living organisms, or the by products of living

† Original notice of the questions was received in Hindi.